Claims

1. A method of communication between terminal equipment and an accessory connected to the terminal equipment, the method comprising

providing in the terminal equipment an application interface for services offered by the terminal,

executing an accessory software application in the accessory,

executing a proxy application in the terminal equipment, the proxy application providing the accessory software application with the services offered by the application interface.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising

detecting the connecting of the accessory to the terminal equipment automatically in the terminal equipment.

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising

downloading the proxy application from the accessory to the terminal equipment automatically after detecting the accessory .

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising

executing the proxy application in the terminal equipment automatically after downloading.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the proxy application sets up and controls data transfer between the accessory and the terminal equipment.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising

querying the properties of the application interface,

sending information about the properties to the accessory software application.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the properties of the application interface comprise the functions supported by the interface and the version of the interface.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein more than one accessory software application is executed in the accessory.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the proxy application is a java application and the proxy application is interpreted in the terminal equipment by a java virtual machine.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the accessory software application is a java application and the application is interpreted in the accessory by a java virtual machine.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the accessory software application uses the application interface of the terminal equipment via the proxy application.

12. The method of claim 1, further comprising

executing the accessory software application in the accessory as a non-java application,

providing by the proxy application in the terminal equipment a java application interface for the accessory software application.

13. The method of claim 1, further comprising

executing the accessory software application in the accessory as a non-java application,

providing by the proxy application in the terminal equipment a non-java application interface for the accessory software application.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein the services offered by the terminal comprise communication services and user interface services.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein the accessory software application enables a user of the accessory to operate the terminal equipment.

16. The method of claim 1, wherein the software platform is a Symbian operating system and the proxy application is realized as a Symbian application.

17. Terminal equipment comprising:

a connection interface enabling an accessory to be connected to the terminal equipment,

an application interface to services offered by the terminal,

a software platform configured to execute a proxy application providing services offered by the application interface for an accessory software application executed in an accessory connected to the terminal equipment.

18. The terminal equipment of claim 17, further comprising

an accessory manager configured to download a proxy application from an accessory connected to the terminal equipment.

19. The terminal equipment of claim 17, further comprising

an accessory manager configured to obtain information about accessory software in an accessory connected to the terminal equipment.

20. The terminal equipment of claim 17, the terminal equipment being configured to detect the connecting of the accessory to the terminal equipment automatically.

21. The terminal equipment of claim 17, wherein the software platform is configured to execute a proxy application providing in the terminal equipment a java application interface for the accessory software application executed in an accessory connected to the terminal equipment.

22. The terminal equipment of claim 17, wherein the software platform is configured to execute a proxy application providing in the terminal equipment a non-java application interface for the accessory software application executed in an accessory connected to the terminal equipment.

23. The terminal equipment of claim 17, wherein the software platform is configured to execute a proxy application providing a user interface of an accessory connected to the terminal equipment.

24. The terminal equipment of claim 17, wherein the software platform is a java virtual machine.

25. The terminal equipment of claim 17, wherein the software platform is a Symbian operating system.

26. An accessory for terminal equipment, comprising

means for connecting the accessory to the terminal equipment,

means for executing an accessory software application, configured to communicate with the terminal equipment via a proxy application executed in the terminal equipment and to utilize services offered by the terminal equipment via the proxy application.

27. The accessory of claim 26, further comprising

means for uploading a proxy application to the terminal equipment automatically when being connected to said terminal equipment

28. The accessory of claim 26, wherein the accessory is a cover for the terminal equipment.

29. The accessory of claim 26, wherein the accessory is an independently functioning external device.

30. The accessory of claim 26, wherein the accessory has a wireless connection to the terminal equipment.

31. The accessory of claim 26, wherein the accessory has a wire line connection to the terminal equipment.

32. The accessory of claim 26, wherein the user interface of the accessory is provided by an application interface of the terminal equipment.

33. The accessory of claim 26, wherein the user interface of the terminal equipment is provided by the accessory.